

Policy Connection

SEPTEMBER, 2007

Dara Bass, Editor

REQUIRED ANNUAL NOTICES

One of the many challenges public school districts face is meeting the requirement to provide numerous legal notifications to various audiences (staff, students, parents, public). Among the many legally required annual notices are the following requirements that may not be familiar to district staff:

Homeless Students

Federal law (McKinney-Vento Act) requires the staff member designated to serve as liaison to homeless children and youth to provide public notice of the education rights for those students in places where homeless students receive services under the Act (42 U.S.C. § 11432g.6). A poster listing that information (in English or Spanish) may be downloaded at no charge from the web site of the National Center for Homeless Students (funded by the U. S. Dept. of Education):

http://www.serve.org/nche/products_list.php#youth_poster

Policy/Procedure Reference 09.12

Asbestos Management

Federal law (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act/AHERA) also requires school districts to annually give written notification to parents, teachers, and employees of the availability of an asbestos management plan and current/planned inspections and response actions (40 C.F.R. §§ 763.84c, 763.94g.4). Districts can download a free yearly notification form provided by the U. S. Environment Protection Agency (EPA) at:

<http://www.epa.gov/region2/ahera/notiform.htm>

Policy/Procedure Reference 03.14/03.24/09.22

PERFORMANCE-BASED CREDIT

- Q** Is it possible for a student to take a night computer class, receive dual (high school and college) credit for that class, and the district still receive ADA funding?
- A** Yes, a student may attend a dual credit class that meets at night, and the district would still receive ADA as long as board of education policy allows it. However, districts cannot generate more than 100% ADA for a student, so the night class will displace a class in the regular schedule for ADA calculation purposes. If the school decides that the student is not required to be present at the school for that period, appropriate parental permissions and liability issues should be addressed.
- Q** We have a high school student that will be attending the Academy of Mathematics and Science at Western Kentucky University. What policy changes will our board need to consider?
- A** Although there may be other policy areas affected, your board policy on graduation requirements needs to reflect that performance-based credits will apply toward graduation. Your board also may want to consider including/adding dual credit language to their 08.1131/Alternative Credit Options policy and/or related procedure if the district wishes to allow students to earn credits in that manner.

Policy/Procedure Reference 08.113/08.1131

WELCOME, NEW POLICY SERVICE MEMBERS

Welcome to Supt. Josh Powell and the Cloverport Board of Education and Supt. Richard Webb and the Burgin Board of Education who recently became the 171st and 172nd members of the KSBA Policy Service!

SHARE THE CONNECTION

If there are others you think would be interested in receiving the Policy Connection by email, please forward this to their attention. All that is required to subscribe is to email Dara Bass to request to be added to the list. The address is:

dara.bass@ksba.org

EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS AND GROWTH PLANS

Helping employees to grow professionally should be the central purpose of an effective employee evaluation process. Join KSBA staff in October for training focused on certified and classified employee evaluations. Sessions will be held on October 19, 2007 at the Ramada Inn in Lexington and on October 26, 2007 at the Holiday Inn University Plaza in Bowling Green.

704 KAR 3:345 states that “continued approval as an evaluator shall be contingent upon the completion of a minimum of twelve (12) hours of evaluation training every two (2) years.” In addition to earning seven (7) hours of EILA credit, participants also will earn six (6) hours of training that will count toward the regulatory requirement.

To register online, click on “School employee evaluations, growth planning personnel workshops” on the KSBA website (www.ksba.org):

<http://portal.ksba.org/Public/Event/Event.aspx?EventID=sJzj13DVJHs=>

Individuals scheduled to attend the conference, but planning to register on site should notify Jolene Shearer (jolene.shearer@ksba.org or 1-800-372-2962, ext. 107) so that we can make sure you have a lunch. The registration fee is \$200, which includes lunch and beverages, and the deadline for registration is October 12th.

Policy/Procedure References 03.18/03.28

Student Discipline Conference

Legal & procedural requirements for suspension and expulsion

Gang awareness and prevention

Student search and student speech issues

New Special Education discipline requirements

Section 504 discipline requirements

These are the policy-related topics to be addressed at a training set for November 9, 2007 at the Lexington Four Points by Sheraton (8:00-4:00). Speakers include Dr. Eddie Woods of LIFE Institute, Inc., Regina Jackson of English, Lucas, Priest & Owsley, and KSBA legal and policy staff. The conference is co-sponsored by KSBA and the Kentucky Center for School Safety (KCSS).

To register online, click on “Student Discipline Conference” on the KSBA website (www.ksba.org):

<http://portal.ksba.org/Public/Event/Event.aspx?EventID=fr48dLyXcMQ=>

Individuals scheduled to attend the conference, but planning to register on site should notify Jolene Shearer (jolene.shearer@ksba.org or 1-800-372-2962, ext. 107) so that we can make sure you have a lunch. The registration fee is \$200, which includes lunch and beverages, and the deadline for registration is November 2nd.

Policy/Procedure References 09.422, 09.431/09.434/09.435/09.436

PAST ISSUES

View past issues of the Policy Connection (previously On Board with Policy) by going to the KSBA web site (www.ksba.org) and clicking on <Policy/KSBA eMeeting> and then on <Policy Connection> under “Catalog of Services.” Also, use the topic index provided to help you locate the appropriate edition.